STATE OF CALIFORNIA BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY

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Dear Local Law Enforcement Representative:

The Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) is proud to continue the availability of "Grants Made Easy," a grant proposal process designed specifically for local law enforcement agencies. "Grants Made Easy" significantly reduces the paperwork and time required to submit a proposal and finalize a grant agreement. This program also streamlines the reporting process by replacing the Final Report requirement with an Executive Summary. In addition, "Grants Made Easy" enables OTS staff to significantly reduce the number of days required to process new grants. This innovative grant application process is a direct result of OTS' Performance Improvement Initiative to enhance efficiency and effectiveness.

OTS has developed three programs under the "Grants Made Easy":

- ❖ Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP)
- **❖ DUI** Enforcement and Awareness Program (**DUI**)
- ❖ Vehicle Impound Program. (VI)

These three programs incorporate best practice strategies shown to reduce traffic crashes and gain favorable media coverage.

"Grants Made Easy" applications requesting "overtime only" funding must be for a <u>one year</u> period (October 1, 2008, through September 30, 2009). Due to limited federal funding for new grants, *OTS will give priority-funding consideration to local law enforcement agencies* submitting proposal requesting "overtime" funding under the Grants Made Easy program.

Grant funds are awarded on a competitive basis. OTS provides funding assistance to agencies with the greatest need. Therefore, a comprehensive evaluation is part of the proposal review process. OTS evaluates proposals using several criteria including: potential traffic safety impact of proposed activities; local collision statistics and OTS rankings, seriousness of identified problem(s); performance on previous OTS grants; proportionality of funding requested with identified traffic safety problem(s); and the value of the funding requested for the proposed activities.

The grant funding cycle begins with this solicitation. Your proposal must be postmarked by *January 31, 2008*. Grant funds become available to successful applicants on October 1, 2008, which is the beginning of the 2009 federal fiscal year.

If your question is not answered in the "Frequently Asked Questions" section, please do not hesitate to contact your <u>Regional Coordinator</u>. We hope you are able to take advantage of this funding opportunity to make traveling on California's roadways safer.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER J. MURPHY

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Director